

According to the Single Directive, issued by the Department of Personnel & Training, as amended from time to time, in regard to any person who is or has been a decision making level officer (Joint Secretary or equivalent or above in the Central Government or such officers as are or have been on deputation to a Public Sector Undertaking; Board Level Officers in Public Sector Undertakings; Officers of the Reserve Bank of India of the level equivalent to Joint Secretary or above in the Central Government, Executive Directors and above of the Securities & Exchange Board of India and Chairman & Managing Directors and Executive Directors and such of the Bank Officers who are one level below the Board of Nationalised Banks), there should be prior sanction of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department concerned before Special Police Establishment (Central Bureau of Investigation) takes up any enquiry (PE or RC), including ordering search in respect of them.

(b) and (c) No reference from Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) concerning term lending Financial Institutions has been received. CBI have however reported that during 1995 and 1996 only one reference involving officials of Life Insurance Corporation of India and Unit Trust of India has been referred to the Ministry of Finance seeking concurrence for registration of a case. The matter was examined in the Finance Ministry and based on the material available in the Ministry relating to the case, the Ministry came to the conclusion that the registration of a regular case did not seem to be warranted. The Ministry has accordingly forwarded the relevant documents to the CBI with a request to examine them and revert to the Ministry for concurrence if considered necessary.

Ceramic Industry

4280. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for providing natural gas to Rajasthan for the development of a ceramic complex;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No proposal for providing natural gas has been received in this Ministry for development of a ceramic complex in Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) there is no proposal from this Ministry to provide natural gas for development of ceramic complex in Rajasthan.

[Translation]

Hard Coke Oven and Plant

4281. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hard coke oven and plants in the country in 1982-83;

(b) the number of those ovens and plants in working condition at present;

(c) the quantum of coal consumed in manufacture of hard coke in oven and plants during 1982-83;

(d) the consumption of coal in the said works at present;

(e) the number of employees working in these ovens and plants during 1982-83 and the number of those working at present;

(f) whether most of the employees working in these plants have now been engaged in other works; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Management Information System maintained by Coal companies does not give information on the number of Hard Coke Ovens and the Plants in the country in 1982-83 or the quantum of coal required/consumed by them in that year.

As per the information made available by CIL, currently 180 such plants are drawing raw coal from CIL sources. The monthly requirement of these plants is around 4.20 lakh tonnes.

(e) to (g) Coal companies do not have any information on the number of employees working in various Hard Coke Ovens in the country in 1982-83 or even at present. Presently, more than 180 Coke Oven Units are operational in the small and medium sectors spread over the length and breadth of the country. The coal companies do not maintain any information of the employees of these Coke Oven Plants.

[English]

Sales Tax on Companies

4282. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as directed by the Supreme Court the Government are considering to establish a mechanism to

decide inter-State dispute over the levy of sales tax on companies which do country wide business; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/under consideration in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

Raj Mahal Coal Project

4283. SHRI SIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the parameters adopted by the Government to fix compensation for land and houses acquired for Raj Mahal Coal Project;

(b) whether the compensation rate fixed for land and houses acquired for Raj Mahal Coal Project is less as compared to compensation rate fixed for National Capital Territory of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate the families displaced due to this coal project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Compensation for land is paid as decided by the Land Acquisition Department of Government of Bihar. Compensation for houses is paid on the basis of assessment made as per the current schedule of rate of the PWD, Government of Bihar.

(b) and (c) Rates of compensation for land and houses vary from place to place according to local conditions. Since coal is not mined in the National Capital Territory comparison of rates of compensation is not feasible.

(d) Rehabilitation of families is done as per prevailing rehabilitation policy of CIL duly approved by Government of India. Besides payment of compensation for land and existing house structure, displaced families are provided with a free house hold plot in the rehabilitation site finalised after discussion with the affected persons people's representatives and district administration, with infrastructure facilities like drinking water, road, school, community centre, shopping centre, pond, play ground, place of worship, drain etc. are also provided by the Coal Companies at the rehabilitation site.

Closure of Industries

4284. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Industries closed during the last three years till date, sector-wise;

(b) the reasons for closure of these industries;

(c) whether the Government have any policy of revival for closed industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financial Irregularities

4285. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Arbon ke ghotale ko 'imbalance' keh kar dabaane ki tayari' appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated 18 December, 1996.

(b) if so, the facts of the points raised thereon; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take to check the financial irregularities and also to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export Growth

4286. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day seminar on Industry, Trade, Commerce and Banking was held recently in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether he has stressed the need to step up exports in order to make the country's economy bouyant;

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to improve the growth of exports during 1997;

(d) whether the growth of exports during 1996 was below the target; and

(e) if so, to what extent programmes are being made to improve the exports during 1997-98 ?